THE SUN, New York City. PARIS-Kiosque No. 12, near Grand Hotel, and Riosque No. 10, Boulevard des Capucines. If our friends who favor us with manuscripts for publication wish to have rejected articles returned, they must in all cases send stamps for that purpose.

### The Hoar Resolution.

One of the special purposes of Senator HOAR in offering his resolution of inquiry concerning the treaty with Panama is to ascertain whether at the time of the ratification of the treaty by Panama that Government "had lawfully adopted a constitution."

Having ascertained that, as a matter of fact, the new republic at the time of the ratification of the treaty had broader field for investigation will open before the venerable Senator.

It will be logical and perfectly proper for Mr. HOAR, for instance, to request the President, if not in his judgment incompatible with the public interest, to inform the Senate whether at the time of the ratification of the Seward-DeStoeckl treaty of 1867, by which we acquired Alaska, the Russian Empire had lawfully adopted a constitution.

Mr. HOAR cannot fail to perceive that if the lack of a "lawfully adopted" constitution on the part of the contracting Government invalidates or vitiates a treaty concluded with us, who possess so good a Constitution and one so lawfully adopted, the defect would be precisely the same in the case of Russia as of Panama.

Is it possible that for nearly forty years we have been asserting in Alaska territorial rights which Russia was in no position to convey to us because she had lawfully adopted no constitution?

### Mr. Hanna's Circular.

According to a despatch to the New York Herald from Birmingham, Ala., an admirer of Senator HANNA in that town wrote to him about two weeks ago on the subject of the Presidency and received the following reply:

" I have read with interest your kind letter of the 4th inst., and assure you of my sincere appreciation of the sentiments expressed and of your regard and confidence in me. Such suggestions as you make with reference to next year are, of course, highly complimentary, but my position on this subject is well defined and well known. I have no personal ambition to serve, and cannot be considered in any sense a candidate for the Presidential nomination. My only desire is to serve my party to the extent of my ability. M. A. HANNA."

Yesterday morning another admirer of Senator HANNA'S, in Elizabeth, N. J., Gen. J. MADISON DRAKE, received and gave out for publication the subjoined communication on the same sublect from the same distinguished Republican statesman:

" My DEAR GENERAL: I have read with interest your kind letter of the 8th inst., and assure you of my sincere appreciation of the sentiments expressed in the same and of your regard and confidence in me. Such suggestions as you make with reference to next year are, of course, highly complimentary, but my position on this subject is well defined and well known. I have no personal ambition to serve, and cannot be considered in any sense a candidate v only desire yours truly.

so widely separated in the geographical

on occasions like these.

# The Advance Into Tibet.

The latest information regarding the British expedition into Tibet leaves doubt as to whether anything more than a demonstration toward Lhasa can thousand men, with mountain guns and Maxims and a large body of carriers and transport animals. Khamba-jong, the base of the British operations, is fourteen thousand feet above sea level, with the temperature permanently below zero during the winter. It is some thirty miles inside Tibetan territory. The Khamba mountain is situated in the northwestern corner of the Chumbi valley, through which the British are Gyangtse is easy compared with that through Sikkim, by which the force marched from India.

The road on from Gyangtse to Lhasa is described as similar to a rough Indian cross road, in some parts twenty feet wide and in others a mere trail. In some places it is made to serve the purpose of an irrigation ditch where it runs between fields. No attention is given to keeping the roads in repair, the Tibetans not caring to facilitate and divert their trade to India from China. The Tsangpo or Brahmaputra is crossed by a chain bridge only wide enough for people to cross in single file, while ferries do most of the business, such as it is. A day's march from the bridge is the most difficult part of the road, which is a path over confused rocks and boulders along the river bank, from which a false step would plunge one into quicksands or the swift running waters. Near Lhasa the road improves, and there are bridges over the streams. The city of the buildings being, however, on rocky eminences that crop up. The surrounding country is said to be fertile, and without unduly straining the resources

of the inhabitants. There is some discussion, both in

justification for the action of the British Government against Tibet, as all previous treaties have been made for Tibet by the Chinese Ambans resident at acting with the first Amban. The fact that the Tibetans have steadily refused to send envoys of their own to Khambaiong may be as much because they could Chinese envoy as because they were unwilling to treat.

The return of Lord Curzon's letters directed to the Dalai Lama may have been for the same reason, although it is alleged that the latter has entered into compacts with Russia over the head of his suzerain. Should this prove to be the case, and should the Chinese Government be now holding aloof, the return of the Indian Vicerov's communications would be in the nature of a defiance.

Whatever the facts may be, it is clear that the British Government is determined to break through the barriers hitherto excluding Indian traders from Tibet, and to make use of it as a highway into the hinterland of China. Only very pressing reasons, however, would call for a military expedition into the not lawfully adopted a constitution, a heart of the country in the depth of a lated in other large cities, it may be taken Tibetan winter.

#### Will Democratic Senators Oppose the Panama Treaty?

Democratic leaders will make a grave tactical mistake if they try to array their party in the Senate against the Panama treaty. The American people will no more sanction in 1904 a rejection of the long-sought opportunity to cut an interoceanic waterway by the shortest and cheapest route than they sanctioned in 1900 the preposterous demand for a renunciation of the Philippines.

The plan of the opponents of the treaty was revealed in the caucus of the minority Senators that was held on Tuesday, Dec. 15. The caucus voted that hereafter a resolution passed by two-thirds of the Senators present and voting thereon shall be binding upor all Senators taking part.

It is understood that Senator COCKRELL of Missouri did not vote on the new rule and will not be bound by it. We find it hard to believe that Senator NEW-LANDS of Nevada, acquainted as he is with the wishes of his constituents and of the whole population of our Pacific States, will participate in a movement detrimental to their vital interests That Senator MORGAN of Alabama should view with disapproval any canal treaty that does not provide for the selection of the Nicaragua route is to be expected but we do not see how Senators from Texas, Louisiana and Mississippi can reconcile a similar course with their duty to the Gulf States. That both of the Senators from Florida have hitherto favored the ratification of the Panama treaty is well known, and, if they permit themselves to be forced by a caucus to act against their judgment they are likely to hear from their respective State Legislatures.

The more thoroughly the circumstances

preceding and attending the recent revolution on the Isthmus are discussed the plainer will it become that, had the President failed promptly to recognize the Republic of Panama, and to accept the canal treaty which the Government of the new State offered, we should presently have been involved in complications of the gravest character. Not only would the Isthmus, whereon we are bound to maintain peace and order, have been made the scene of devastation and is to serve my party to the extent of my ability. | massacre, but the French Republic might Again thanking you for your kindness. I remain have been called upon by the Canal company to protect its franchise and prop-A careful examination of these two erty, which would have been threatened letters from Mr. HANNA to two admirers | with destruction. It is now well known that the rejection of the Hay-Herran sense, but so nearly unanimous in their treaty was simply the first move in a admiration and hope that he will run for game the ultimate purpose of which President in 1904, convinces us that the | was the confiscation of the French Com-Senator's replies are equally apt in pany's assets in 1904 on the plea that its phraseology, equally decorous in senti- franchise would then have lapsed, the ment and equally creditable to his pa- last extension, for which the corporation paid a million dollars in gold, not having A statesman is not without honor been granted in a constitutional way. No when he is compelled to use a formula | French Government could live an hour if it tried to withstand the tumultuous popular demand that the army and navy of France should be employed to defend her citizens against such an act of spoliation. Yet we, on our part, should have been constrained, not only by the Monroe Doctrine, but by the specific obligations be effected during the present season. contracted in 1846, to object to any per-The force is composed of about four manent occupation of Isthmian territory by a French force. It is pretty certain that Germany would have offered to cooperate with France in order to make an end of the Monroe Doctrine, and it is at least doubtful whether England would have entered the lists on our behalf.

This was no visionary danger that we escaped through our recognition of the Republic of Panama, and our negotiation of a treaty with its representatives. The confiscation of the French company's advancing, and the road beyond it to franchise was resolved upon by the Bogota politicians, and stern interposition on the part of France would probably have followed. The French Republic, indeed, would have had a hundred times better reason for intervening on the Isthmus than NAPOLEON III, had for

interfering with Mexico forty years ago. Democratic Senators will be guilty of a serious blunder if, on the eve of a Presidential campaign, they put their party in a wrong position with reference to this

# Panama affair.

Religious Observance in New York. attendants proportionally to the popula- | them? tion of Manhattan, as calculated in recent enumerations of the churchgoers, should be reduced largely because so many of them are counted twice over, makes a point worthy of consideration.

Every such census which has been taken in New York is open to serious question on many accounts. Was the actual of Lhasa itself is eleven thousand feet attendance at each church counted, and above the sea, and built in a plain, some what is the evidence that the enumerators were trustworthy? The cost of taking a complete and accurate census would have been very great, for hundreds of enumer \*easily capable of supporting an army ators of much intelligence and peculiar adaptation would have been required, and there is no evidence, there seems no probability, that the "Church News Asso-England and India, about the political | ciation," by which the census was taken, | but if there was any purchase of playing | portraits at the end seem rather out of place now.

had these requisite means and agents at its command. It is not a sufficiently authenticated body to make its statistics at all authoritative. If the census had Lhasa, or a special envoy from Pekin | been conducted under the superintendency of Dr. WALTER LAIDLAW, for example, it would have deserved serious consideration, for the thoroughness of his methods in gathering such statistics not act in the absence of a qualified has been demonstrated very satisfactorily, but the Church News Association

has no such standing. The percentage of the membership of each denomination who are churchgoers, as given in this census, could not be trusted, even if the enumeration was correct. Different denominations have different standards of qualifications for membership, and among them there is wide variation in the accuracy with which they make up their rolls of members. In some, too, the habit of attending more than one service on Sunday is greater than in others.

At best, the so-called census is rather rough estimate than an actual enumeration; but as the percentage of church attendants proportionally to the population appears in that estimate to agree generally with the percentages calcuas a good guess. About one-quarter of the people of New York are estimated by it to attend public Christian worship. This is a somewhat larger percentage than was counted in London in the recent canvass by the Daily News of that town; and it suggests, moreover, that regard for religious duties is much more extensive here than in the English capital, for in New York, according to the high authority of Dr. LAIDLAW, there are 675,000 Jews, while in London their number is comparatively insignificant. Throughout the East Side Chetto and in many other parts of the town are great numbers of synagogues, the attendance on which on the Jewish Sabbath and on first days was not counted.

Relatively to its Christian population religious observance in the Manhattan borough of New York seems to be more general than in any other of the greater towns of Christendom. It also appears, however, that indifference to religion and persistent neglect of religious privileges prevail among the vast majority of the population, but whether these are more now than at former periods cannot be calculated, for we have no comparative statistics. It is questionable if the percentage of church attendants is not at least as large now in New York as it ever was.

A computation of the present religious distribution of the population of the city as a whole, made in the last October publication of the Federation of Churches, is deserving of consideration, though, of course, we cannot vouch for its accuracy. It gives to the Roman Catholics 1,250,000, to the Protestants ,863,730 and to the Jews 675,000, the Protestants, therefore, being less than the aggregate of the others. Of the Catholics, it computes 265,000 as "out of church," or "not enrolled," and nearly the whole of them are classified as of the English speaking races. The "out of church" Protestants are computed at 741,080, of whom four-fifths are attributed to those races. These estimates are suggestive at a time when much dread of the immigration of people of alien tongues is expressed

# Aids to Legislation.

Legislating for a nation of the vast extent and the varied and sometimes conflicting interests of the United States is a task of rare difficulty. It requires the ripe judgment, the careful attention and the calm consideration of those to whose hands it is confided. Their personal comfort is worthy of attention, for statesmen vexed physically, deprived of their peace of mind, might thus be prevented from giving their best thought to the important matters before them for settlement. This has been recognized in no legislative body more completely than in the most august deliberative assembly in the world. The United States Senate. in order that the nation may be properly governed, sees to it that the Senators are well cared for in the discharge of their public duties.

Mr. CHARLES G. BENNETT, the Secretary of the Senate, has made his report of receipts and expenditures for the year ending June 30, 1903, and in it are the evidences of the Senators' determination that nothing shall be unprovided that may aid them in the discussion and adjustment of questions of national importance. The connection between wrist bags and the revenue laws is obvious; women carry wrist bags in which to carry money; and as these are frequently snatched by "moll buzzers," they aid in the distribution of wealth. The Senators know this, and therefore they bought fifty wrist bags, ranging in cost from \$30.50 to \$2.45 each, between July 1, 1902, and June 30, 1903. Opera bags are an article of interstate commerce, and three of them were purchased for the use of the

Senate during the year. Handkerchief cases are usually regarded as dearer to the feminine heart than the masculine, but laws are made for women as well as men, and five handkerchief cases, ranging in cost from \$5.55 to \$3.10, were among the articles paid for out of the Senators' allowances last year. The spectacle of a United States Senator wearing a chatelaine bag is one that would attract attention on Broadway, but there is some occult connection between them and law-making, for four, costing from \$12 to \$4, were bought for Our correspondent of to-day who the Senate in the fiscal year. Are there contends that the percentage of church light and frivolous Senators who wear

> No Senator uses a pass, for that would place him under obligations to the soulless corporation issuing it. But pass cases are necessary to hold identification cards and many have been bought at prices running from 25 cents to \$2.50. In card cases the Senators have a varying fancy; some use a simple contrivance valued at 25 cents; others demand an ornate affair, the cost of which amount to \$11.90. Probably a bargain; marked down from \$12, and it caught the eye and fancy of a thrifty Senator. Vienna glove cases were bought for three Senators. Eleven manicure sets, cost \$5.75, were supplied out of the contingent fund. Six boxes of card dominos were supplied.

cards and poker chips it has been overlooked by us. Dominos is a quiet, reflective, non-exciting game, well suited to the habits and tastes of the grave

Senators. Of pocket knives not less than sixtynine dozen, or 828, were purchased for the Senate, and, quite properly, a roll of court plaster was provided against the cuts resulting from their use. A sufficient stock of fountain pens was laid in to provide for the most verbose Senator an unending supply of ink. One item shows that 100 dinner cards and envelopes were supplied on account of one Senator, but

for whom is not divulged. In literature the report shows that the Senators have a catholic taste. Senator JIM JONES of Arkansas got SMITH'S Dictionary of the Bible, costing \$1.20. Senator DANIEL got "Charm of Birds" and "Marcus Aurelius," at an expense of \$1.57 for the two. Senator DANIEL mets all the Virginia newspapers, too. Senator WET-MORE indulged himself in a directory of the city of Washington at a cost of \$5 to the Government.

Some of the Senators save a little from their allowances for stationery and newspapers. Senator DRYDEN drew \$59.38 and his colleague, Senator KEAN, saved \$103.73. Senator WETMORE received \$96.37. Senator BERRY added \$112.47 to his salary in this manner. Senator McCumber got more-\$118.52. Surrounded by chatelaine bags, manicure sets, dominos, the Senators have a comfortable, happy time, and bless the contingent fund and the aids to enlightened legislation it supplies.

This alleged conversation in a Washington street car between Senator PLATT of Connecticut and a well-meaning bore is reported by a correspondent of the New

"Senator PLATT was meditating, but the man who was next to him thought there must be som ort of conversation, and he said:
"'How is Senator HAWLET these days?

"'I haven't heard from him in some time, rumble 'I understand he is quite ill,' said the man.

'Do you?' inquired PLATT. "'Yes,' and then, to bridge over the affair as best ne could, he commented:
"'He is pretty old to be in the Senate, anyhow.

"'Well,' he said, 'as I am several years older than he is I won't discuss that with you." Thus doth the courtesy of the Senate overrule the biographical dictionaries—even the autobiographies in the "Congressional

"Senator PLATT gazed straight ahead

Directory" itself.

The plain duty to Cuba has been performed. The extraordinary session of Congress was not required. The extra mileage might have been saved. The theory of infinitesimal recesses was unnecessarily propounded.

Three cable companies whose lines suffered from the military operations of the United States in 1898 are trying to collect damages from the Government. Eastern Extension, Australasia and China Telegraph Company, whose Manila-Hong Kong and Manila-Capiz lines were cut by Admiral DEWEY, wants \$4,500. The Cuba Submarine Telegraph has applied or \$40,000, and the French Telegraphic Cables Company wants \$77,000 for damages to its Cuban lines. The United States holds that it is under no legal obligation for damages inflicted on cable properties as a necessary act of war, but Secretary HAY has asked Congress to make appropriations for the reimbursement of companies purely as an act of equity and friendship.

# Radium and the Standard of Value

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Who knows but that the discovery of radium may herald the realization of the dreams of the old alchemists the transmutation of the base into the so-called precious" metals? It is quite possible that one of time may be solved in the chemical laboratory Imagine that twenty five years hence Sir William Ramsay, or his successor, announces that by a simple and inexpensive process lead, tin, zinc and similar metals may be transmuted into gold and silver. What will then become of our present financial system? What will become of the so-called "gold standard," and what sense will then be conveyed by the term "bimetallist"? Will not chem stry have then exposed one of the greatest delu-dons that has ever afflicted the human mind—the idea that the material can function as a "standard

With the inevitable collapse of metallic n based upon the so-called "intrinsic" values of the metals which would necessarily ensue upon the transmutation discovery, it may be interesting to ascertain what monetary system would be likely to ake the place of the present one. It seems to me un uestionable that nations would be compelled to have recourse to a purely paper currency (which, after all, is the currency of the highest civilization), and this currency would doubtless be based, not pon one particular commodity, but upon all the Instead of taking a certain commodity as a unit

of purchasing power, we should adopt a unit which must necessarily be ideal, namely, the purchasing power of such a commodity at a given the For example, suppose we imagine that all the rold and silver of the world should suddenly vanish the exchange relation of commodities would still be expressed in terms of pounds, shillings and pence, dollars and cents, &c.; but in place of a pound or a dollar representing a certain weight of gold, it would stand merely for a certain amount of purchasing power, corresponding to the purchasing power of the dollar or the pound sterling at the time that it disap-peared; and as it would then be impossible to coin

any more sovereigns or dollars, governments of he banks would merely issue paper notes representing these units. An illustration will make this clearer. a number of balloons, A, B, C and D, at different altitudes; and suppose we wish to trace the vari-ations in their relative positions from time to time. All that we know of their positions is that the distance between A and B is twice that between A and the earth, and that A to C is equal to three lmes A to B, while C to D is twice B to C. How are we to determine their positions? The problem is a very simple one, and is analogous to tracing changes in values. Suppose A to the earth is unknown, represented by x. Then A to B = 2x A to C = 6x; therefore, B to C = 4x, and C to D = 8x. By following the variations in the altitudes of each balloon, in terms of x, we can always determine their relative positions. It is not necessary to know what x is: so long as we can express distance in terms of x, these relations can always be deter

fluctuations in the purchasing powers of commod-ities in terms of x, either as multiples or fractions. Nearly all the world's financial disasters may be traced to this conflict between the material and the ideal. What the financial world is to-day employchasing power; and by falling to connect this pur chasing power with a certain fixed time, industry, trade and commerce suffer by the fluctuations which necessarily occur in the purchasing power ARTHUR KITSON

mined. So, x may be said to correspond to our idea

unit of purchasing power, and it is not necessary to know the dimensions of this unit in absolute terms. All we desire is to be able to trace the

# WHITEHALL CLUB, WESTMINSTER, S. W., Dec. 2.

To the Editor of The Sun-Sir: Your figures on church attendance should be reduced from 25 because about two-thirds of those who attend at all attend twice. A. H. WALKER NEW YORK, Dec. 15.

A brave array of well known names marks the January number of the regenerated Metropolitan Magazine. Mr. Jomas Nelson Page opens with a Christmas tale coplously illustrated. Among the other short story writers are Eden Philipotts, W. A. Fraser, and Mrs. Flora Annie Steel. Mr. Huneker gives an account of "Parsifal" and Mr. Carrington tells about the paintings of G. F. Watts. There is a great deal of verse. The theatrical

# THE TESTIMONY IN THE WOOD

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16 .- The desire, if no the intention, to whitewash Dr. Wood beomes more apparent with the increase of the evidence against him. Effort is made not only to deny the testimony given under oath before the committee, but also to discredit the witnesses. Evidently for the purpose of influencing public sentiment in favor of Dr. Wood, a leading New York paper (the Tribune of Dec. 15) states that members of the committee generally have come to feel that they are being imposed upon, that their time has been wasted listen ing to a mass of evidence that has been in every instance refuted by more trust worthy witnesses than those called by the

prosecution," &c. Such a statement as this reveals a curiou condition of affairs. It may be assumed that so definite a statement of the opinions of members of the Committee on Military Affairs is not made without due authority Upon such an assumption one of two things appears inevitable. Either the committee has decided to override and disregard the sworn testimony of witnesses of sufficient repute and respectability to justify their appearance before so august a body or the news accounts of their testimony as presented by the daily papers are inaccurate if not altogether false.

According to a letter published over the signature of the Secretary of War, the latter is the case. He says that "some person is undertaking to convey to the press representatives" false information "for the pur pose of injuring Gen. Wood in the public estimation." The ground upon which the Secretary rests his assertion that all of the Washington correspondents are drawing upon a single source for their information and the authority upon which he declares that information to be false is not disclosed. The assertion of falsity certainly implies that Mr. Root has been able to compare the recorded testimony as given in presumably secret hearing with the acounts of that testimony as furnished by the press

While this testimony is given in so-called executive session and is presumably secret, there is actually no legal restraint upon witnesses regarding the substance of their testimony, nor is any limitation imposed upon their entire freedom to furnish any one who may call upon them with an ex pression of their opinions or a statement of their information. It is doubtful if a single witness has appeared before the committee and escaped the rigid examination and cross-examination of those alert news seekers whose business it is to supply the public with the facts regarding all matters of public interest. The witnesses have not been sworn to secrecy regarding their testimony, and the greater portion of that which has been made public has been obtained from them rather than from a vague and indefinite "some person" who is giving "false information" with the deliberate intention of misleading the public and injuring Gen. Leonard Wood.

This point having been raised by so high an authority, it is quite in order to ask who is responsible for the possibility of so gross and grievous a wrong to the friend of the President. If Dr. Wood's record and character were as far beyond impeachment as they should be to make him eligible for the post to which he has been appointed, no testimony of "men with a grievance," no evidence given by personal enemies, no assaults of evil minded persons, could have I prevailed against him. It is the friends of Dr. Wood who are responsible for the hear ing of his case behind closed doors, through whose crevices only fragmentary evidence leaks out, in such a manner that doubt can be cast upon its accuracy. As for the statement that the evidence

given by these witnesses "has been in every instance refuted by more trustworth witnesses than those called by the prose ecution," people will ask, Who are these witnesses? So far as is known, Mr. Ray Stannard Baker is the only witness who has yet been called in Dr. Wood's defence, and it is far from certain that his testimony in any way contradicted that of Major Runcie. Aside from Mr. Baker's testimony, there is nothing, so far as the public is aware, but the unsworn statements of Dr. Wood himself as opposed to the testimony given under oath by officers of the army and by civilians of standing in the community.

The charges preferred against Dr. Wood are of so serious a nature that it has been asserted that no other officer of the United | find an unconstitutional grave, if properly States Army would rest under them without an immediate demand for a court of inquiry. The assertion of unfairness in bringing charges against Dr. Wood during his absence in the East is without justification. Charges, made under oath, were preferred against him before he left the country Long before that, it was known that charges would be brought; and Gen. Wood left behind him, officially filed, nearly 150 pages of typewritten matter constituting a presumed reply to the expected charge Those charges were brought, and that which is now being submitted is the evi-

dence in support of them. As this matter now stands, only one prope course seems open. Whether the published accounts of the testimony are true or false. their publication will leave upon the mind of the public an ineffaceable doubt, and that doubt will not be "whitewashed" away by any action of either committee or Senate Justice to Dr. Wood as well as to the public demands a full presentation of the testimony. Let those who put the cover on presumably in the interest of Gen. Wood. now take it off for his justification in the eyes of the country. Should it then appear that the charges have found reasonable substantiation, let Gen. Wood be recalled at once and have an opportunity to disprove and demolish them.

# The Spanish Canal Project.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Your correspondent "F," in to-day's SUN, referring to the interest taken in this country in the Panama Canal project in Henry Clay's time does not go back far enough. This is shown by the following letters of Jefferson, when Minister to Paris from this country, to William Cormichel at Madrid: PARIS, Dec. 11, 1787. - I have been told that cutting

through the Isthmus of Panama, which the world has so often wished and supposed practicable, has at times been thought of by the Government of Spain, and that they once proceeded so far as to hav a survey and examination made of the grounds but that the result was either impracticability or too great difficulty. PARIS. May 27, 1788. - With respect to the Isthmu of Panama, I am assured by Burgoin (who would not choose to be named, however) that a survey was made, that a canal was practicable and that the

ldea was surpressed for political reasons altogether. He has seen and minutely examined the report. This report is to me a vast desideratum, for reasons political and philosophical. This alludes to a survey made by the Spanish Government in 1781, the first ever accom

## LANSINGBURGH, N. Y., Dec. 13. Live Stock in Kentucky.

John Pigg had a valuable cwe killed last week by his dogs.

Fat hogs are selling at 5 cents in this locality. Tighlman Pigg sold several head of young co to Winchester parties last court day at \$3.35 per hundred for the helfers and \$3.75 for the steers. Wiley and Howard Watts bought of Scott Hag-gard seven fat hogs, averaging 276 pounds at 5

James Cruse sold a fat hog to Thomas Henry at

### THE SUN THAT DIDN'T SET. An Observation of the Altitude of Uncle Marcus Alonzo Hanna.

From the Springfield Republican Of one thing we may be sure. Mr. Hanna enjoying himself. He is not worrying, is another who walks the floor while Mr. Hanna sleeps. He likes the present situaion much better than certain situation that could be imagined; and in all this Mr. Hanna is human. His feeling of placidity is in no respect inconsistent with loyalty to the President or to the party. Compare the present position of Mr. Hanna

lis sun seemed to be setting. When President McKinley passed from the scene assumed that Mr. Hanna would shrink in power and importance; and as time passed, with the rapidly expanding popularity of Mr. Roosevelt, their forecast apparently being vindicated. Mr. Roosevelt seemed to be without possible competition as the real head of the Republican party, as well as its nominal leader by virtue of his high office. Then came the Ohio election, with its tremendous victory and the incontestable signs that the dominant Republican in the whole Ohio valley was no other than Mr. Hanna. Presto! the whole scene was changed If the story should be named, the title might well read, "The Sun that Didn't Set." Mark remains a resplendent orb high up in the political sky. He does not come down because he cannot. The wires refuse to work. The situation may be embarrassing the other great luminary of the heavens, but Mr. Hanna is not at fault. Besides, he warm and comfortable. He knows he has not set. He is getting his share of sun worship, while his shining powers are making the other orb higher up afraid of his own

In order to appreciate the full extent of Mr. Hanna's personal achievement, we need only remember that seven years ago the Obio Senator was unknown to American politics, except as a business man of Cleveland who had lately begun drumming for delegates in favor of the nomination of his friend McKinley to the Presidency. Seven years ago people were asking, "Who is this man Hanna?" No one asks that question With no great amount of moral capital nor any training in public affairs, he is now "the great Senator from Ohio," who can fight the President's nomination of a dear and intimate friend without incurring the President's displeasure; he is the actual favorite and first choice of that powerful business class which has been the backbone of the Republican party; and, on the stump, he eyen basks in the popularity of "Uncle Mark" mong the people of the Ohio valley.

What other eminently practical politician, our time or any previous time, has so outwitted the cartoonists and gone so far in so few years as Mr. Hanna?

# THE \$101,000,000 JOB

### Lawyer of Repute Calls for Organization to Defeat It in the Courts.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Had the educational campaign conducted during the recent State election reached all the voters within the State before the election, the \$101,-000,000 canal appropriation might have been defeated. This was a consummation devoutly to be wished by the sober, intelligent sentiment of thinking people. We are now face to face with a State tax more onerous than we have ever had, for the widening and deepening of a mud ditch. Is there nothing left to protect the people from the results of their own negligence, inattention and consequent ignorance? Possibly they do not deserve the protection, but the question is broader than malice, and is, Shall the proposed confiscation suffer no resistance? Shall public money be wasted in a futile effort to accomplish an impossibility, without any attempt at prevention? Organized committees for public plunder

usually succeed over disorganized opposiseduced into the belief that in some way they are disturbing the equilibrium of the railroads; and that cause alone, backed by demagogic circulars and appeals, produced the business would be affected if the \$101,000,000 would accomplish what has been claimed for it by a few interested engineers; but, unfortunately for the taxpayers, the weight of disinterested authority is to the effect that starting with a mud ditch we shall leave off with a mud hole, and the \$101,000,000 will ccomplish the magnificent difference.

Gov. Odell has bereft New York city of all Gov. Odell has bereft New York city of all or "lends a hand." He has a way of imparting its powers of government practically and has saddled it with all the taxes within his reach. He possibly believes that this coup will square the account, as New York city voted for it, but New York city will continue to vote the Tammany ticket, while the State at large, burdened by the canal tax, will feel that it Many grave defects appear in the legis-

lative act which is the foundation stone on which the appropriation rests. In the opinion of some of our able lawyers, that bill may The opponents of grafting waste should

counsel together, and hinder if possible the licensing of loot. It can be done by an attack on the foundation. That that foundation is not of granite stone, but of muddy clay, like the bed of the stream forming the canal itself, is the opinion of one of many lawyers. New York, Dec. 16. Lex.

#### Are the Free Lecturers Incompetent? TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: 1 notice the

conflicting opinions expressed by your correspond ents "A Chemist" and "Another Chemist" as to the value of the free lectures being delivered under the auspices of the Board of Education. I have at ided some of the lectures "about travel and art" am quoting from the letter of "Another Chemist", "splendidly illustrated by the finest photographs obtainable"; and my wonder was aroused that such persons as the lecturers should have the nerve and impertinence to appear before an audience at all, let alone draw public money for the performances Most of the men and women who are thus lect uring (there are some exceptionsperhaps) have as a basis for their drivelling talks the experience gained as members of some "per-sonally conducted tourist party," supplemented by the use, often unskilful, of some cheap stercoscopic slides purchased on the Rue Rivoll or the Strand. They bore and disgust their hearers with egotistical references to inconsequential and per-sonal details of their hurried flights from city to ette and with vapid dissertations concerning art

Any one who has had the privilege of listening to the late Mr. Stoddard and of seeing the beautiful views displayed by him will readily see how in-tensely interesting and instructive such lectures night be made. Surely there must be many capable urers to be found, both men and wo can describe the beauties of Paris and other European cities, or the fascinations of rural England, and whose services might be obtained for more than that now being paid for efforts that are generally painful sometimes ludicrous I am informed that the fee paid is \$10 a lecture which is not a large one, but altogether too large for the class of lecturers herein referred to. NEW YORK, Dec. 14.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN Sir: This morning about 11:30 o'clock several gentlemen in a front office of the sixteenth floor of the Empire Building. Rector street and Broadway, looking out of a port window, saw a good sized hawk travelling at great speed, coming over the St. Paul Building. The bird followed Broadway. When he came to Trinity

burying ground he turned to the west and headed for the wilds of Jersey.

As he passed closer to our window we saw that he held in his taions a good sized Rive Rock piges Had we better take our guns downtown

### NEW YORK, Dec. 15. Another Mean Man Exposed

From the Chicago Record-Herald.
"Now," said the lawyer for the cross-petitioner. as he took the fair witness in hand, "I want you tell the Court just when you first began to think It was on Christmas two years ago. "What was the nature of the trouble?"

"I had bought his mother a pocketbook for "Well, he got mad and talked awfully, because he gave my mother a gold watch."
"Because he gave it, you say?"
"Well, of course I picked it out, but I let them

send him the bill and ma gave him all the credit

# HOAR ON SMOOT CASE.

Senator Explains His Attitude to Orange Women's Political Club.

ORANGE, N. J., Dec. 16 .- The Orange Political Study Club, composed of women, wrote to Senator George F. Hoar regarding his criticism of the protests against the seating of Senator Reed Smoot. It.

has received the following reply from the Massachusetts Senator: with that of a year ago, or even of six months

Massachusetts Senator:

If I have been quoted anywhere as saying that the pressure of public opinion is needed to secure investigation of charges against Senator Smoot. I have been wrongly quoted. Any member of the Senate who will not do his duty without public excitement ought himself to be expelled.

I think the opinion of the women of the country of the highest value on important public questions. I think they ought to be clothed with the suffrage and that to clothe them with the suffrage would alike purify and exalt the character of the republican government.

government.

But I do not think they ought to petition the Supreme Court either to hasten judgment or in regard to what judgment they should render in cases pending there.

### THE UNIVERSAL LANGUAGE. English Rapidly Supplanting All Other Tongues in Common Use.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: There was published the other day an article which was a complaint by the writer concerning the making of so many dictionaries of the English language. The author deplored the fact that we are rapidly approaching a stage when there will be no such thing as dictionary which can be regarded in the light with which former generations viewed Webster's, for instance, as a standard. Of late years there have been variants innumer able in the pronunciation of English words based chiefly on individual authorities so many and so conflicting that it is now a hard task to know what is standard and what is not. There is no end to the making of dictionaries nowadays, and possibly the writer of the arti-cle in question may have just ground for

to know what is standard and what is not. There is no end to the making of dictionaries nowadays, and possibly the writer of the article in question may have just ground for protest.

The idea, it appears to me, opens up a very interesting train of thought which may commend itself to those who are of the opinion that it would be well for the world at large to have a universal language. We have examples of this idea in the attempts to establish volapid and Esperanto as a vehicle of universal speech. None of these efforts is likely to avail, because they conflict with certain great laws of progress. As civilization advances there is of necessity a gradual converging of all languages into one. Can it not be shown that languages and dialects disappear as the human race presses on its forward march? And is it not evidence of the truth that this merging of all languages into one is going on at a more rapid pace than we are aware because of this constant making of new dictionaries of the English language, each addition of which has more variants of pronunciation and more shades of meaning, together with a constant accession of new words adopted by reason of new discoveries in the field of science? Surely this is not a condition to be deplored, but rather one to be thankful for. It certainly shows an important stage of human progress.

Does not all this give a sound basis for the prediction that English will of necessity be the universal and dominant language of all peoples? Does it not mark the restoration of things—for the disappearing languages and dialects are so many stations along the onward path enabling us to know the distance we have travelled from the tower of Rabel, where confusion of tongues began? When the day dawns that shall see all people speaking one language, the English language, in which shall be reflected the language of all people speaking one language, the English language, in which shall be reflected the language with the time to understand the "new tongue."

So let us have more English dictiona

## Dr. Hale as Chaplain of the Senate.

From the Boston Transcript.

The Senate of the United States has been and still is the target of considerable criticism. It has been called arrogant, mercenary and obstruc tive, but we do not believe there is a citizen of this whole broad land who will not approve its prompt and cordial ratification of the nomination by Senator Hoar of the Rev. Dr. Edward Everett Hale to be its chaplain No doubt the place has frequenti been occupied by saintly and carnest men; never theless its offices have been largely perfuncto in their reception, if not in their performance. But there is never anything perfunctory about any of the high activities in which Dr. Hale takes a hand ing, and when he opens the daily sess body with appeals for Divine strength and guid ance he will not only have kept up appearances. but he will have given its members something think about besides beet sugar and Havana t bacco. The Senate claims to be the most dignified deliberative body in the world, and it may help it to justify its pretensions to have its daily inve cations led by Boston's first citizen and one who occupies a foremost place among the prophets of the nation. The author of "The Man Without a Country" would hardly be content to remain long than the Washington season a man without a city But for a few months Dr. Hale's comings and go ings will be missed among Boston's highest inte ests. His benign and cheerful presence and helf ful words and deeds are at everybody's call her always. But our sacrifice will be a genuine na tional benefit; at all events, there will be more Senators in their places at the summons to prayer than there ever have been before

Seventy-four Years a Postmaster. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: I noticed by THE SUN of Nov. 29 an Item in regard to a pomaster in Kentucky named Jewell, who, it claimed, has been a postmaster longer than any other

is concerned, but there died within the year Roswe Beardsley of North Lansing, Tompkins count N. Y., who was born in 1800, was appointed pos-master in 1828, when 19 years old, by John Quine Adams, and who held the office continuously for over seventy-four years.
On June 28, 1902, his friends gave him a house

warming on the seventy fourth anniversar his appointment as postmaster. The New Yor Geographical Society offered him a handsom sum for his original commission when it was six years old, but he refused the offer The Kentucky postmaster received his appointment in 1855, twenty seven years later than Roswe

Beardsley, and both died this year. Compared with the North Lansing postmaste BRIDGEPORT, Conn., Dec. 15.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Speaking on the United States Senate representing the Union of the States brings up another important matter the election of United States Senators by direct vote of the people, as advocated by the Populls party, the People's party and the National Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union

United States Senators should be elected by the

the course laid down by the framers of the Con stitution. The House of Representatives represents the suffrage and its members are elected by dire CARL EICKEMETER YONKERS, Dec. 15.

# From an Astonished Young Woman.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN Sir: In this morning's edition of THE SUN I notice a millionaire implaint of lack of \$10,000 bills in the Treasury Please tell me if there are any such in circulation and can it be true that in this world there is an man who gives even one as a Christmas pres

### EAST ORANGE, N. J., Dec. 15. Definition of Greatness

From the Washington Star.
ou sometimes think you would be greater man if you were to cultivate the art of ora

"I don't know," answered Senator Sorghum
"A great man, as you know, is one who gets men
tioned in the school books after he is dead, in stead of the financial column of the newspaper while he is living."

#### When My Rowboat Comes In. Once I pictured in my fancy All the joy and merry sport When my ship with swelling canvas

Now I'm waiting for the message-And I'll raise a modest din When I sight a little rowboak Coming in

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